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SPILL RESPONSE CONTACT SHEET

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Department of Emergen	cy Management	(8	00) 452-0311
In Washington:	-	`	•
	t Division	(8	00) 258-5990
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-	southwest Regional Office		00) 107 0000
S. Coast Guard		Lower Elwha Klallam Tribe	
tional Response Center	(800) 424-8802	Tribal Office	(360) 452-8471
arine Safety Office Puget Sound:		After Hours Emergencies	(360) 417-2259
Watchstander	(206) 217-6232		
Safety Office	(206) 217-6232	Makah Tribe	
arine Safety Office Portland:	(503) 240 0205	Tribal Office	(360) 645-2201
Watchstander	(503) 240-9301	After Hours Emergencies	(360) 645-2701
Safety Office	(503) 240-9379		
cific Strike Team	(415) 883-3311	Federal O.S.R.O./	
District 13:	(20.0) 220 7212	State Approved Response Co	ontractors
MEP/drat	(206) 220-7210	All Out Indust. & Env. Services	(360) 414-8655
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HOW TO USE THIS GEOGRAPHIC RESPONSE PLAN

Purpose of Geographic Response Plan (GRP)

This plan prioritizes resources to be protected and allows for immediate and proper action. By using this plan, the first responders to a spill can avoid the initial confusion that generally accompanies any spill.

Geographic Response Plans are used during the emergent phase of a spill which lasts from the time a spill occurs until the Unified Command is operating and/or the spill has been contained and cleaned up. Generally this lasts no more than 24 hours. The GRPs constitute the federal on-scene coordinators' and state on-scene coordinators' (Incident Commanders) "orders" during the emergent phase of the spill. During the project phase, the GRP will continue to be used, and the planned operation for the day will be found in the Incident Action Plan's Assignment List (ICS Form 204). The Assignment List is prepared in the Planning Section with input from natural resource trustees, the Incident Objectives (ICS Form 202), Operations Planning Worksheet (ICS Form 215), and Operations Section Chief.

Strategy Selection

Chapter 4 contains complete strategy descriptions in matrix form, response priorities, and strategy maps. The strategies depicted in Chapter 4 should be implemented as soon as possible, following the priority table in Section 2 with the "Potential Spill Origin" closest to the actual spill origin. These strategy deployment priorities may be modified by the Incident Commander(s) after reviewing on scene information, including: tides, currents, weather conditions, oil type, initial trajectories, etc.

It is assumed that control and containment at the source is the number one priority of any **response.** If, in the responder's best judgment, this type of response is infeasible then the priorities laid out in Chapter 4, Section 2 take precedence over containment and control.

It is important to note that strategies rely on the spill trajectory. A booming strategy listed as a high priority would not necessarily be implemented if the spill trajectory and booming location did not warrant action in that area. However, the priority tables should be followed until spill trajectory information becomes available, and modifications to the priority tables must be approved by the Incident Commander(s).

The strategies discussed in this GRP have been designed for use with persistent oils and may not be suitable for other petroleum or hazardous substance products. For hazardous substance spills, refer to the Northwest Area Contingency Plan, Chapter 7000.

Standardized Response Language

In order to avoid confusion in response terminology, this GRP uses standard National Interagency Incident Management System, Incident Command System (NIIMS, ICS) terminology and strategy names, which are defined in Appendix A, Table A-1 (e.g. diversion, containment, exclusion).

Strait of Juan de Fuca Geographic Response Plan

Record of Changes

		Record of Changes	
Date	Change Number	Summary of Changes	Initials of person making change
July 1, 1993	Original Release	N/A	N/A
March 15, 1996	1 st Change	Replacement of document - includes new chapters and revised Chapter 4 based on field verification.	
March 2003	2 nd Change	Update of Chapter 4 using GIS based maps, and new priority tables based on trajectory modeling.	D Davis

Table of Contents

Spill Response Contact Sheet	i
How To Use This Geographic Response Plan	
Record of Changes	
1. Introduction: Scope of this Project	1-1
2. Site Description	
2.1 Physical Features	
2.2 Hydrology	
2.3 Currents and Tides	
2.4 Winds	
2.5 Climate	2-2
3. Reference Maps	
Strait of Juan de Fuca Key Map - Strategy Locations	3-1
4. General Protection/Collection Strategies	
4.1 Chapter Overview	
4.2.1 Potential Spill Origins Map	
4.2.2 Booming Strategy Priority Tables	
4.3.1 Proposed Booming and Collection Strategies: Maps	4-8
4.3.2 Proposed Booming and Collection Strategies: Matrices	4-18
5. Shoreline Information (3/15/96 version)	
5.1 Shoreline Types and Sensitivity	5-1
5.2 Shoreline Type Maps	5-2
5.3 Oil Countermeasure Matrix (March 2003 version)	5-12
6. Sensitive Resource Description (3/15/96 version)	
6.1 Fish and Wildlife	6-1
6.2 Other Resources	6-2
6.3 Flight Restiction Zones	6-3
6.4 Hazing	6-3
6.5 Flight Restiction Zones/ Sensitive Wildlife: Maps & Matrices	6-4
6.6 Fish and Shellfish Data	6-25
7. Logistical Information (3/15/96 version)	
7.1 Logistical Support	7-1
Appendices	
Appendix A: Summary of Protection Techniques	A-1
Appendix B: Original Geographic Response Plan Contributors	B-1
Appendix C: Geographic Response Plan Comments/Corrections/Suggestions	C-1

Strait of Juan de Fuca, Washington

GEOGRAPHIC RESPONSE PLAN

1. INTRODUCTION: SCOPE OF THIS PROJECT

Geographic Response Plans are intended to help the first responders to a spill avoid the initial confusion that generally accompanies any spill. This document serves as the federal and state on-scene-coordinators "orders" during a spill in the area covered by this GRP (see Chapter 3 for area covered). As such, it has been approved by the U.S. Coast Guard Marine Safety Office and the Washington State Department of Ecology Spills Program. Changes to this document are expected as more testing is conducted through drills, site visits, and actual use in spill situations. To submit comments, corrections, or suggestions please refer to Appendix C.

GRPs have been developed for the marine and inland waters of Washington, Oregon, and Idaho. They are prepared through the efforts and cooperation of the Washington Department of Ecology, Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, Oregon Department of Environmental Quality, Idaho State Emergency Response Commission, the U.S. Coast Guard, the Environmental Protection Agency, tribes, other state and federal agencies, response organizations, and local emergency responders.

GRPs were developed through workshops involving federal, state, and local oil spill emergency response experts, response contractors, and representatives from tribes, industry, ports, environmental organizations, and pilots. Workshop participants identified resources which require protection, developed operational strategies, and pinpointed logistical support. A similar process has been used for major updates.

Following the workshops, the data gathered was processed and reproduced in the form of maps and matrices which appear in Chapters 4 through 6. The maps in Chapters 5 and 6 were generated using Canvas. Maps for Chapter 4 were generated using ArcView GIS. The matrices were created using MS Excel, and the balance of each GRP was produced using MS Word.

The first goal of a GRP was to identify, with the assistance of the Washington State Natural Resource Damage Assessment Team, resources needing protection; response resources (boom, boat ramps, vessels, etc.) needed, site access and staging, tribal and local response community contacts, and local conditions (e.g. physical features, hydrology, currents and tides, winds and climate) that may affect response strategies. Note that GRPs only address protection of sensitive **public** resources. It is the responsibility of private resource owners and/or potentially liable parties to address protection of private resources (such as commercial marinas, private water intakes, and non-release aquaculture facilities).

Secondly, response strategies were developed based on the sensitive resources noted, hydrology, and climatic considerations. Individual response strategies identify the amount of boom necessary for implementation. The response strategies are then applied to Potential Spill Origins and trajectory modeling, and prioritized, taking into account factors such as resource sensitivity, feasibility, wind, and tidal conditions.

Draft strategy maps and matrices were sent out for review and consideration of strategy viability. Field verification was conducted for some strategies, and changes proposed by the participants were included in a semi-final draft, which was offered for final review to all interested parties and the participants of the field verification.

1-1 March 2003

Finally, the general text of the GRP was compiled along with the site description, reference maps, and logistical support.

Items included in Logistical Support:

- Location of operations center for the central response organization;
- Local equipment and trained personnel;
- Local facilities and services and appropriate contacts for each;
- Site access & contacts;
- Staging areas;
- Helicopter and air support;
- Local experts;
- Volunteer organizations;
- Potential wildlife rehabilitation centers;
- Marinas, docks, piers, and boat ramps;
- Potential interim storage locations, permitting process;
- Damaged vessel safehavens;
- Vessel repairs & cleaning;
- Response times for bringing equipment in from other areas.

1-2 March 2003

2. SITE DESCRIPTION

The Strait of Juan de Fuca is located in the northwest corner of Washington State along the U.S./Canadian border. The Strait is a deep water body connecting the Pacific Ocean and the inland waters of Washington State.¹ It is generally divided into two subregions: the outer strait - west of Ediz Hook - and the inner strait.

The outer strait supports significant populations of groundfish, clams, shrimp, sea urchins, and Dungeness crab, as well as other fisheries resources. The inner strait is also very productive and species-rich area, supporting large populations of birds, mammals, fish, and shellfish. It is one of the major habitats for marine birds on the Pacific coast of North America. Local economies are based primarily on natural resource use and tourism.

Refer to Chapter 6 for more detailed natural resource information.

2.1. Physical Features

The two subregions of the Strait of Juan de Fuca may include the following shoreline habitats:

Exposed rocky headlands
Wave-cut platforms
Pocket beaches along exposed rocky shores
Sand beaches
Sand and gravel beaches
Sand and cobble beaches
Exposed tidal flats
Sheltered rocky shores
Sheltered tidal flats
Sheltered marshes

Two important features within the inner strait are Ediz Hook and Dungeness Spit. They are accreted gravel spits which protect embayments. The bay inside of Ediz Hook has been dominated by commercial activity from the Port Angeles harbor. Dungeness Spit and Bay are located inside a national wildlife refuge. Activities there include oyster-farming and recreation. The extensive tideflats in this area support a diverse body of marine organisms and shorebirds².

2.2. Hydrology

The Strait of Juan de Fuca is characterized hydrographically as a two-layer system. The upper 30 meter layer is relatively fresh water and the lower layer more saline. The Strait receives a large freshwater influx from the Fraser River and Puget Sound drainages. The two periods of high freshwater runoff occur during spring now melt and late fall and winter.³

³ <u>Ibid.</u>

2-1 March 2003

¹ Kittle, L.J., Marine Resource Damage Assessment Report for the *Arco Anchorage* Oil Spill. (1987).

² <u>Ibid.</u>

2.3. Currents and Tides

Tidal ranges average between four and ten feet producing strong tidal currents. Currents in the Strait may reach two to four knots, depending on tidal range and prevailing winds. North and west-facing shorelines along the Strait are subject to the largest waves and are high energy areas.⁴

2.4. Winds

The Strait of Juan de Fuca is affected by strong winds, most notably from the west. These winds occur when high pressure is pushing strongly behind the passage of a cold front from the west. The westerlies often reach gale force.

A strong east wind is possible when an Arctic cold front pushes south from interior British Columbia into Western Washington. These conditions may contribute to strong easterlies at certain times of year. These winds may also reach gale force.⁵

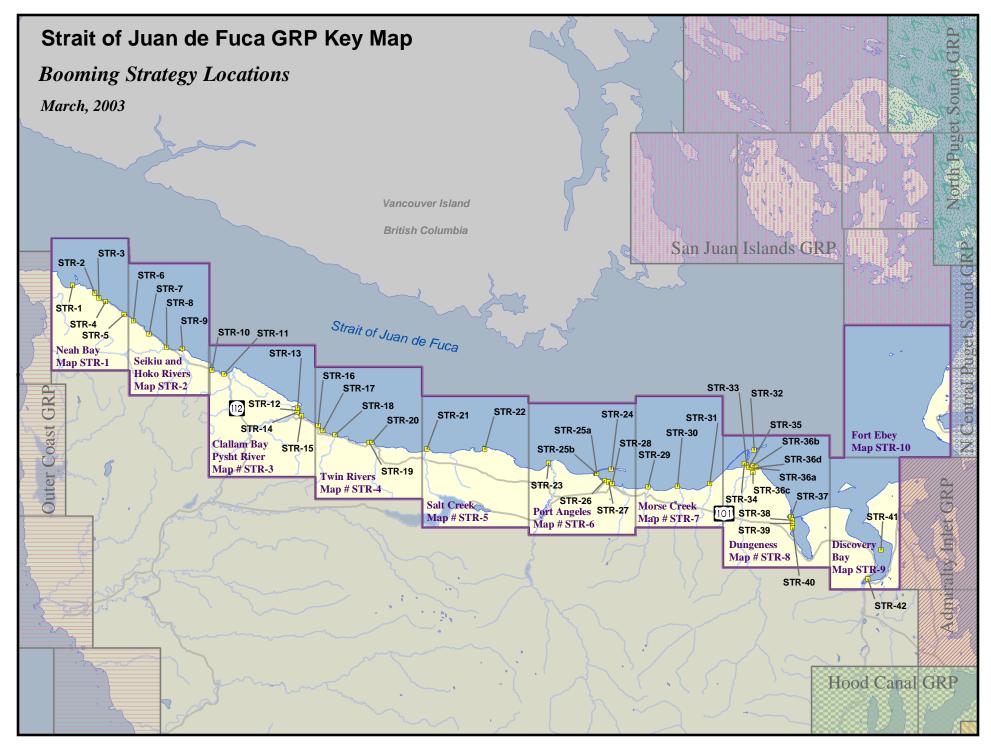
2.5. Climate

The area has a maritime climate with cool summers and mild winters. The winds are variable and the annual precipitation rate is between 18 and 50 inches.

2-2 March 2003

⁴ Kittle, L.J. Marine Resource Damage Assessment Report for the Arco Anchorage Oil Spill. (1987).

⁵ Doug McDonnal, National Weather Service. Personal Communication. (1993)



APPENDICES

Appendix A: Summary of Protection Techniques

Protection Techniques	Description	Primary Logistical Requirements	Limitations
ONSHORE			
Beach Berms	A berm is constructed along the top of the mid-inter tidal zone from sediments excavated along the downgradient side. The berm should be covered with plastic or geo-textile sheeting to minimize wave erosion.	 Bulldozer/Motor grader -1 Personnel - equipment operator & 1 worker Misc plastic or geotextile sheeting 	 High wave energy Large tidal range Strong along shore currents
Geotextiles	A roll of geotextile, plastic sheeting, or other impermeable material is spread along the bottom of the supra-tidal zone & fastened to the underlying logs or stakes placed in the ground.	 Geotextile - 3 m wide rolls Personnel - 5 Misc stakes or tie-down cord 	 Low sloped shoreline High spring tides Large storms
Sorbent Barriers	A barrier is constructed by installing two parallel lines of stakes across a channel, fastening wire mesh to the stakes & filling the space between with loose sorbents.	Per 30 meters of barrier Wire mesh - 70 m x 2 m Stakes - 20 Sorbents - 30 m ² Personnel - 2 Misc fasteners, support lines, additional stakes, etc.	 Waves > 25 cm Currents > 0.5 m/s Tidal range > 2 m
Inlet Dams	A dam is constructed across the channel using local soil or beach sediments to exclude oil from entering channel.	 Loader - 1 Personnel - equipment operator & 1 worker or several workers w/shovels 	 Waves > 25 cm Tidal range exceeding dam height Freshwater outflow

A-1 March 2003

NEARSHORE			
Containment Booming	Boom is deployed in a "U" shape in front of the oncoming slick. The ends of the booms are anchored by work boats or drogues. The oil is contained within the "U" & prevented from reaching the shore.	For 150 meters Slick: Boom - 280 m Boats - 2 Personnel - boat crews & 4 boom tenders Misc tow lines, drogues, connectors, etc.	 High winds Swells > 2 m Breaking waves > 50 cm Currents > 1.0 m/s
Exclusion Booming	Boom is deployed across or around sensitive areas & anchored in place. Approaching oil is deflected or contained by boom.	Per 300 meters of Boom Boats - 1 Personnel - boat crew & 3 boom tenders Misc 6 anchors, anchor line, buoys, etc.	 Currents > 0.5 m/s Breaking waves > 50 cm Water depth > 20 m
Deflection Booming	Boom is deployed from the shoreline away from the approaching slick & anchored or held in place with a work boat. Oil is deflected away from shoreline.	Single Boom, 0.75 m/s knot current Boom - 60 m Boats - 1 Personnel - boat crew + 3 Misc 3 anchors, line, buoys, recovery unit	 Currents > 1.0 m/s Breaking waves > 50 cm
Diversion Booming	Boom is deployed from the shoreline at an angle towards the approaching slick & anchored or held in place with a work boat. Oil is diverted towards the shoreline for recovery.	Single Boom, 0.75 m/s knot current Boom - 60 m boats - 1 Personnel - boat crew + 3 Misc 3 anchors, line, buoys, recovery unit	 Currents > 1.0 m/s Breaking waves > 50 cm
Skimming	Self-propelled skimmers work back & forth along the leading edge of a windrow to recover the oil. Booms may be deployed from the front of a skimmer in a "V" configuration to increase sweep width. Portable skimmers are placed within containment booms in the area of heaviest oil concentration.	Self-propelled (None) Towed Boom - 200 m Boats - 2 Personnel - boat crews & 4 boom tenders Misc tow lines, bridles, connectors, etc. Portable Hoses - 30 m discharge Oil storage - 2000 liters	 High winds Swells > 2 m Breaking waves > 50 cm Currents > 1.0 m/s

A-2 March 2003

Appendix B: Original Geographic Response Plan Contributors

Local Representatives

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State Representatives

B-1 March 2003

Appendix C: Geographic Response Plan Comments/Corrections/Suggestions

If you have any questions regarding this document or find any errors, please notify one of the following agencies: or use tear out sheet (page C-3)

- Washington Department of Ecology, SPPR program, Natural Resources Unit
- USCG Marine Safety Office Puget Sound, Planning Department
- USCG Marine Safety Office Portland
- Oregon Department of Environmental Quality
- Idaho Emergency Response Commission
- Environmental Protection Agency Region 10

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C-1 March 2003

Geographic Response Plan

Comments/Corrections/Suggestions

Directions:

Fill in your name, address, agency, and phone number. Fill in the blanks regarding the location of information in the plan being commented on. Make comments in the space provided. Add extra sheets as necessary. Submit to: Dale Davis

Department of Ecology Spills Program 300 Desmond Drive P.O. Box 47600

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C-2 March 2003

Northwest Area Committee c/o Washington Department of Ecology Spills Program Natural Resources Unit - GRP Corrections P.O. Box 47600 Olympia, WA 98504-7600